

City of Saint Paul Labor Management Safety Committee

November 10, 2010

Do you Have an Emergency Kit in Your Vehicle?

Preparing your vehicle for winter is something everyone says they are “going to do”, but in reality, how many of us have truly done it? While you can certainly purchase an emergency kit from most any store that sells automobile supplies, you can also put one together yourself.

While this list is not all inclusive, here is a compiled list of items to be included in your vehicle’s Emergency Kit (or in the trunk) for the winter:

- A properly inflated spare tire, wheel wrench and a jack
- A shovel (in Minnesota the folding shovels work really well)
- Jumper cables (always check the recommended type per your vehicle’s manual – larger vehicles usually require cables of a stronger capacity)
- Basic tools (wrench, screw driver, fuses, etc.)
- Flashlight and batteries (there are also emergency flashlights that you hand crank that eliminates the need for batteries)
- Reflective triangles (to put out behind your vehicle) or road flares
- First aid kit (remember to check the expiration date of medication annually and keep it well stocked)
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Wooden matches in a waterproof container
- Non-perishable, high energy foods (unsalted nuts, dried fruit, etc.)
- Coat, hat, gloves
- Blanket(s) / towels
- Can in which to melt snow or ice
- Bottle(s) of water – change these out if they freeze
- Bag of sand or kitty litter (for weight or to put on icy spots)
- Extra bottle of windshield washer fluid (suitable for below freezing temp)
- Other items to consider (can of lock de-icer, compass, cell phone charger, safety vest, tow chains, NOAA weather radio)

Remember: Safety is No Accident!

Information courtesy of the National Safety Council